

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multifunctional printing system wherein image information captured through an image information pickup means can be printed as multiple sets of copies by a printing means and which is configured so that the printing operation can be stopped only at intervals from one set of copies to the next or every certain number of printouts, comprising:

a computing means for calculating the time at which an interrupt can be made next, based on the designated number of print sets, the current state of printing, the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible; and

a display means for displaying the permissible interrupt time calculated by the computing means.

2. A multifunctional printing system wherein image information captured through an image information pickup means can be printed as multiple sets of copies by a printing means and which is configured so that the printing operation can be stopped only at intervals from one set of copies to the next or every certain number of printouts and so that the printing operation needs to be stopped in order to allow an interrupt job, comprising:

a computing means for calculating the permissible termination time which allows for an interrupt job, based

on the designated number of print sets, the current state of printing, the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible; and

a display means for displaying the permissible termination time calculated by the computing means.

3. The multifunctional printing system according to Claim 1, wherein the computing means has the function of calculating the finish time of the requested interrupt job instead of calculating the permissible interrupt time or permissible termination time, and the display means has the function of displaying the finish time of the interrupt job calculated by the computing means.

4. The multifunctional printing system according to Claim 2, wherein the computing means has the function of calculating the finish time of the requested interrupt job instead of calculating the permissible interrupt time or permissible termination time, and the display means has the function of displaying the finish time of the interrupt job calculated by the computing means.

5. The multifunctional printing system according to Claim 1, wherein the computing means, instead of having the function of calculating the permissible interrupt time, the permissible termination time or the finish time of the

interrupt job, has the function of calculating the time length corresponding to any of these, and the display means has the function of displaying the time length calculated by the computing means.

5
6. The multifunctional printing system according to Claim 2, wherein the computing means, instead of having the function of calculating the permissible interrupt time, the permissible termination time or the finish time of the
10 interrupt job, has the function of calculating the time length corresponding to any of these, and the display means has the function of displaying the time length calculated by the computing means.

15 7. The multifunctional printing system according to any of Claims 1 through 6, wherein the display means displays the time or time length in response to the operation of a dedicated key which allows for input of a display request.

20 8. The multifunctional printing system according to any of Claims 1 through 6, wherein the display means displays the time or time length when the key for requesting an interrupt is operated.

25 9. The multifunctional printing system according to any of Claims 1 through 6, wherein a voice generating means for

informing the time or the time length via voice is provided instead of the display means.

09281642 021201